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The Corporation of The City of London September 25, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor's Round Table on Life Sciences focuses on opportunities to support and foster collaboration

How to attract, retain and grow London's life sciences sector was the focus of the Mayor's Round Table this morning. Identifying opportunities and providing recommendations to support and foster London's reputation for excellence formed the basis of discussion among 14 participants invited to share their knowledge and expertise in various aspects of research, science and technology.

"Our potential in this rapidly evolving sector is particularly strong, because we already have great research taking place, and collaborative efforts creating spin-off companies," says Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best. "By coming together to analyze additional factors critical to our future success, we will ensure London is a key player in life sciences on the global front."

"Working together, we can expand London's existing reputation for excellence by leveraging existing initiatives and investment to attract more researchers and investment," says Mark Pickard, Chair of the Round Table and Vice President of Trudell Medical International. "Therefore, identifying strategic ways to increase our critical mass of life sciences experts is an opportunity not to be missed."

At today's session, the participants agreed they will support LEDC as the lead in fostering the Life Sciences sector and will continue to be available as an active Working Group that will come together from time to time. The Group agreed that collaboration among all partners in the Life Sciences sector - both public and private - is key to strengthening the sector. Two major goals have been set: 1) to create four spin-off companies in London; and 2) to attract two major anchors that could either be locally-grown or new to London. To achieve these goals, the Working Group agreed LEDC must create an economic model that focuses on London's competitive advantage and strengthens our brand as a centre of excellence in Life Sciences and will leverage and stimulate further investment in the creation of jobs in our community.

Today's Life Sciences discussion is the second topic to be covered this year and continues the series of Mayor's Round Tables addressing issues of importance to London, which also complement the City's work in the Southwest Economic Assembly. Energy, Agriculture & Agrifood, and Advanced Manufacturing are the other Round Table topics. [Click here](#) to find more information on the Mayor's Round Table series.

